

GANG FIGHT MAY SOLVE MIDDLETOWN MYSTERY

Police Chief Hears Man Was Slain Just Before Theo. Furman Disappeared.

TRUNK STILL UNCLAIMED

Authorities Keep Eye on Suspected Family While They Try to Identify Bones.

MIDDLETOWN, April 6.—Police Chief McCooch sifted to-night from a mass of wild rumors about the cinder car mystery and the singular conduct of the Furman family a story that he thinks worthy of investigation. It was to the effect that about four months ago, before young Theodore Furman slipped away from Middletown, a cinder car was employed by the Ontario and Western Railroad fought with knives on an ash heap near the Ontario and Western shops on the outskirts of this city.

One of the men, so McCooch heard, was killed. His body was spirited away. On the books of the railroad he was a number, not a name. His disappearance interested nobody except his gang boss, who was used to the vagaries of foreign laborers.

What most interests McCooch and District Attorney Rogers in connection with this story is a tip that a trunk had remained unclaimed for four months in an Italian boarding house in Waverley avenue. There is just the possibility that the fragments of a body that were found in a cinder car on January 8 are the remains of the man who owned the trunk. This week the story will be thoroughly investigated by the police.

So far nothing has developed to connect the Furman family with the cinder car victim. Not a shred of evidence has been produced to show that any one of this interesting family had knowledge as to how the man whose body was thrust into a carload of red-hot ashes came to his death.

What remains absolutely a puzzle is the attitude of the Furmans when the remains of the cinder car victim were discovered. Why did Eugene Furman accuse his brother Joseph of murdering Theo? Why did Joseph accuse Eugene and then seek to implicate himself?

Nothing more remarkable in the way of confessional fiction has been heard of perhaps than the steady insistence of these men that they killed their brother, their calm detailed story of how Theodore was shot, how his body was carried to the cellar of the Furman house and cut up and how the pieces were taken in two sacks to an ash car on the railroad tracks a short distance from the Furman house.

And all the time, as the family must have known, young Theodore was alive. Their statements to the police were utterly false, as they now admit, but there was a cinder car victim whose body was disposed of in apparently much the same way as the Furman brothers insisted they used Theodore's.

Efforts were made by THE SUN to-day to find whether Eugene and Joseph Furman were truthful when they said that Chief McCooch and detectives had extorted confessions from them by third degree methods. Here is what District Attorney Rogers had to say:

"We don't use such things as third degree in these small towns. Here it is exactly what happened: When we found that a crime had been committed and that the Furman family was missing, we suspected his family. Eugene and Joseph were questioned. Voluntarily and glibly they told their similar stories as to the killing of Theodore, except that each accused the other. They were not threatened. Not a hand was laid on them. Nobody used a harsh word to them. They told these stories freely and eagerly."

The stories were plain and especially so when Theodore's switch key was found in the cellar of the Furman house in about the place where the brothers said the body had been carried for disposal. And here Theodore, smiling and cheerful, marching around town and apparently quite good friends with these curious brothers.

The District Attorney will work on two lines in the next few weeks. He expects to send a representative to Cincinnati, N. Y., to question Mrs. Betty Steele and her mother, Mrs. John Steele, who live at 100 West 10th street, North street. Rufus Steele, Betty's husband, is not living with his wife, told Chief McCooch that Betty had quarreled with him and had left home. On the night of February 27, 1912, a few days before Betty Steele left home for good, the police were called to the Furman house by Rufus Steele, who wanted to get his wife out of there. There are other stories of altercations between members of the two families.

Mrs. Ella F. Furman, mother of the boys, won't talk. Apparently Mrs. Steele is the only person who will throw light on the relations of the families.

This afternoon Chief McCooch questioned the aged mother of Rufus Steele as to whether she had heard anything unusual on the night of December 27, 1911, the night on which the Furman boys said they killed their brother. She said that between midnight and 1 A. M. on that night she did hear a shot somewhere in the neighborhood, but she was unable to locate it. She was warned, however, not to make inquiries the next day. Nobody seemed to have heard the shot save herself, she said.

So much for the Steele family. The other line of investigation concerns the identification of the half-burned pieces of a human body. There is hardly enough left to tell whether the victim was young or old, whether he was white or a part of the face of the right shoulder and of the right arm. A bit of cloth, charred nearly to ashes, was the only thing found besides the fragments.

The District Attorney will set out patiently to trace the movements of everybody who left Middletown in November and December of 1911 and in January, 1912. He expects the job to take a long time and hasn't much notion that it will produce anything of value. So far he hasn't been able to learn of any mysterious disappearances. It is likely that a private detective from New York will be employed to make a patient investigation of the whole mystery.

Whatever the outcome, it will be a long time before Middletown gets through speculating over the latest puzzle in crime.

EDITOR KIDNAPPED.

Critic of Police in "Free Speech" Campaign Is Stolen in an Automobile.

SAN DIEGO, Cal., April 6.—The "free speech" fight being waged by the Industrial Workers of the World and several other persons here took a new turn to-day when it was learned that Abraham Sauer, editor of the San Diego Herald, a weekly paper, had been kidnapped.

Sauer's paper last week published an attack on the methods used by the police last night when they drove up to Sauer's home in an automobile and when he walked out to see what they wanted seized him. Before the car could get away, Sauer and the men threw Sauer into their machine and drove swiftly away.

"BURGLAR" WAS OWN SON.

Young Marshall Kiddle Had Hidden Things Police Sought.

Mrs. Alfred W. Kiddle, the wife of a lawyer at 115 Broadway, called up Police Headquarters several nights ago and said that several hundreds of dollars worth of her jewelry and silverware had disappeared. Detectives Donnelly and Quinn hurried to the Kiddle home at 314 West Ninety-eighth street. When they reached there they found that policemen had been called in from the street and then all hands made a search of the house, it being the opinion of Mrs. Kiddle that the burglar was still there. The only result of the search, however, was a preliminary report that twenty-five pieces had been stolen and that entrance had been effected through a basement door.

Mr. Kiddle called up Capt. Zimmerman and Acting Captain Tunney, the latter in charge of the detectives, and insisted that the ferreting out of the burglar be continued without delay. The next day Donnelly and Quinn again visited the house and Donnelly submitted the following report:

"In regard to the robbery complaint of Alfred W. Kiddle I wish to respectfully report that I have interviewed Mr. Kiddle and two servants in his home. From one of the girls I learned that she thought she had carelessly left the basement door open on the evening of the robbery. I could find no other means of entrance, there being no jimmy marks on the doors or scuttles. Mr. Kiddle submitted a list of twenty-five articles valued at \$500 which he believes were stolen. In company with Detective Quinn I visited all the pawnshops in our district but failed to find any of the articles. The list of stolen property has been published and a copy sent to each pawnshop in the city. In closing I wish to state that I shall continue my investigation and put forth my best efforts to catch the thief and recover the property."

The investigation went on and Mr. Kiddle, according to the police, continued to urge them to apprehend the burglar, or at least to recover his property. Here is a list of the property submitted yesterday by Detective Donnelly:

"I was informed at the home of Mr. Kiddle to-day that the property reported stolen from his home has been recovered. His son Marshall, 10 years old, had hidden the property in his dresser, playing burglar."

When a reporter called at the Kiddle home last night, Mrs. Kiddle told him that her son loves excitement and enjoys a joke. She said, however, that he always had been afraid of burglars and so when her property disappeared the family made a great effort to keep the fact from him. Only by skilful manoeuvring could an explanation of the continued visits of the police men who asked so many questions be avoided. But when Mrs. Kiddle, going through her son's dresser, discovered the missing property she no longer kept the facts from him. She discussed the matter with him and applied household remedies with precision.

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Dr. Diesel, Whose Engines Drive the Submarines, Here on a Visit.

Dr. Rudolf Diesel, inventor of the oil engines that bear his name and which he says are used on practically all the submarines of the world's navies, was a passenger by the Hamburg-American steamship America, in yesterday from Hamburg, Southampton and Cherbourg. Diesel is here to lecture, primarily, but he will also to St. Louis to take a look at the plant under construction of the Busch-Bulzer-Diesel Company for turning out the motors. He will lecture before the American Society of Mechanical Engineers this week.

The world afloat and ashore, he ventured to predict, would eventually be equipped with Diesel motors or motors of a similar design. The biggest submarine had motors of 3,000 horse-power, but there was one authorized by the French Government that would have 5,000. The steamship Selandia, 370 feet long, belonging to the East Asiatic company, had demonstrated the practicability of the motor engines in fairly big ships.

The motor ships, Dr. Diesel said, were much more economical than ships run by turbines or reciprocating engines, whether fired by oil or coal. There was a great saving in engine room expenses, as no firemen were required and much more cargo space was available. The trials of the Selandia had been very successful. She could carry enough crude oil to cruise 30,000 miles. Her two motors were of the eight cylinder type and could shift from low speed to full speed astern in twenty seconds.

The next use for the motor, Dr. Diesel said, would be on locomotives. It would be a question of only a little time. No locomotive had been equipped yet but the subject was under consideration and there might be experiments soon. The supply of crude oil was practically inexhaustible and he believed that its use for motor ships would not appreciably enhance its price. He was glad to note that he was able to laugh at some folks who twenty years ago laughed at him for suggesting the possibilities of the motorship.

GEN. WARD'S TALS DIVIDED.

Long Drawn Out Litigation Over Part of Boxer Indemnity Fund.

By a decision of Surrogate Fowler yesterday Mr. George Ward, a sister-in-law of Gen. Frederick T. Ward, who commanded the "Ever Victorious Army" in the Tai-Ping rebellion in China, which ended in 1862, will receive \$165,702, and former Secretary of State John W. Foster, who aided Mr. Ward in obtaining payment from the Chinese Government of the money due Gen. Ward, will get the same amount. The estate of Cyrus C. Lawton, at one time a law partner of Mr. Amidon's former husband, Henry G. Ward, will get \$38,823, or 10 per cent. of the whole amount collected.

The history of the Ward claim against the Chinese Government and the final collection of the money by Mr. Foster after other lawyers had tried for forty years to recover it has been told in THE SUN. Gen. Ward was wounded in the assault on the Tientsin, and before he died on board a British warship he said that the government owed him 140,000 taels. He directed that his wife have 30,000 taels, and his brother, Henry G. Ward, a lawyer, the rest. Gen. Ward's widow died many years ago and his brother became the legal heir. Mr. Ward's partner, Cyrus Lawton, had been unable to account for the money. Mr. Ward's death in 1903, and Mr. Ward in his will left 10 per cent. of all that was collected to Mr. Lawton. Mr. Lawton died in 1907 and his estate was divided. The Surrogate to compel Mrs. Ward, who had become the wife of George R. Amidon, Amidon resisted the claim on the ground that Mr. Lawton had done nothing to earn the money and that the money should be divided between the widow and the son. The Surrogate appointed a referee to determine the amount of the money and the referee reported that the estate should have 10 per cent. of the amount remaining after Mr. Lawton's share had been paid. The referee decided that the estate is entitled to 10 per cent. of the gross sum recovered from the Chinese government of the Boxer indemnity fund. The agreement to pay him half has been made. It was decided that Mr. Foster had taken no improper share in the case and was entitled to his share.

GOLELESS INGENUE PAYS UP THE DUTIES

If a Lassie Meet a Laddie Comin' Thro' the Custom House.

AND TELL A LITTLE FIB

If the Laddie Pinch the Lassie's Petticoats, Need a Press Agent Cry?

Helene Trix (which naturally is not her real name), who arrived here on February 29 in the first cabin of the American liner New York after an illness in London which forced her to cancel her vaudeville engagement there and seek recuperation in her native land, was able to appear at the maine in the Hudson Theatre at Union Hill, N. J., yesterday by the kindness of the customs men. The press agent of Miss Trix, who said her name was entirely inappropriate, as she was positively the most gullest and undoubtedly one of the comeliest young persons in the profession, was at the Custom House yesterday when the reporters came in. He and Miss Trix's manager were arranging with Solicitor Andrews's office for the payment to the Collector of \$175, the duty on two theatrical costumes that had been seized and which were in the public stores.

The press agent was not only not eager to publicly prefer to have the newspaper men forget the incident of the costumes. He said that Miss Trix's declaration had been misunderstood; that she was really an ingenious ingenue and, as he said before, an unusually attractive girl—yes, girl, as she was really not more than 20.

The manager and the press agent rushed to the elevator, dropped down six floors, sprinted to the cashier's office, paid and took a Ninth avenue elevated train to the public stores, getting there about 1:30 o'clock. The gowns had been taken out on telephone order from the Customs House, and the manager, the press agent and Miss Trix, who was waiting at the stores for them, grabbed them up and hurried over to Hoboken. Miss Trix arrived a bit flustered and did her turn on time and, according to the press agent, in an eminently artistic style.

The pinching of Miss Trix's gowns is something new in the annals of seizures. She had been wearing them in vaudeville since her arrival here and it was not until Wednesday afternoon that she was invited by acting Deputy Surveyor Isaac Harris and Inspector O. R. Meixell to accompany them to the office of Surveyor Henry and tell why she had declared them as stolen goods.

She was asked to tell the truth. He lives in Hoboken and last week his wife and children went to the matinee at the Hudson and saw Miss Trix. Meixell was rather pleased with the gowns. Miss Trix wore and said something about them to her husband. He found that she had brought home a programme and looked over and saw the name of the young woman who had said more than a month before that her gowns were not made for theatrical purposes and were not going to be used for such purposes. On Thursday night on order from his superior, Deputy Surveyor Raczewski, at the expense of Uncle Sam, Meixell and a front seat for the show. Miss Trix came out arrayed in one of the gowns, which, Mr. Meixell admits now, would hardly be the sort that a young woman would wear on the street in this country. It was spangled and gold brocade and otherwise gorgeous.

Meixell sat through the show, believing that Uncle Sam should have the value of his money, and saw Miss Trix again in another of her gowns that she had said were for street wear. Then he went home and on Friday morning came over to New York and reported to Special Deputy Surveyor George Smyth. Miss Trix came into Mr. Smyth's office with her manager and press agent and they pleaded for her, saying that she really had not intended to tell a fib about the gowns. Assistant Solicitor Edward Barnes was called in to unravel possible legal twists. The gowns were seized meanwhile. When the Trix found that she would be unable to wear them at the evening performance on Friday she began to cry. Everybody was sympathetic. It was suggested that an inspector in charge of the costumes and have them returned to the public stores after the performance. Mr. Barnes declined on the ground that the gowns had been seized on a seizure of from two to ten years in the Eastern Penitentiary, Philadelphia, for larceny. He was told that the gowns were not made for theatrical purposes and were not going to be used for such purposes. When Mrs. Trix married him in a hall in Seventy-ninth street in December, 1910, she was supposed to be well to do. Four weeks after the wedding Mrs. Trix was told by a police officer that her husband was a forger in Elmiria and was a barber by trade. Mrs. Trix verified these facts at Police Headquarters and left her. The case will come up at trial in May.

His Hydroaeroplane Afire. Burgess Flights Flamed With Rubber Coat on Marblehead Bay.

MARBLEHEAD, Mass., April 6.—Another aviation fatality was narrowly averted to-day when W. Sterling Burgess, aeroplane builder and one of the pioneers of the aviation game, was rescued by motorboat crews and fishermen when his hydroaeroplane caught fire as he was about to ascend from the water in the middle of Marblehead Bay.

His engine back fired, igniting the canvas of the left wing. Burgess fought with the fire for some time, but his machine rocked perilously on the waves. Several motorboats and fishing craft rushed full speed to his aid and put out the blaze. The flyer was towed ashore.

MARRIED A CROOK. Mrs. Taub Seeks to Annul the Marriage for Husband's Fraud.

On the ground that her husband concealed from her the fact that he had served a term in prison before he married her, Hannah Taub, of Atlantic City, has begun a suit through her attorney, Isidor Schneider, to annul the marriage.

It is now known that the defendant, who is now in the Eastern Penitentiary, Philadelphia, for larceny, was supposed to be well to do. Four weeks after the wedding Mrs. Taub was told by a police officer that her husband was a forger in Elmiria and was a barber by trade. Mrs. Taub verified these facts at Police Headquarters and left her. The case will come up at trial in May.

HEN SHOW AT ATLANTIC CITY.

Poultry Raisers Are Banded in an Exhibition on the Million Dollar Pier.

CARLISLE, April 6.—The International Summer Poultry Exposition with the cooperation of a poultry journal will place on the Million Dollar Pier at Atlantic City this summer one of the largest exhibits of poultry ever shown in America. An effort will be made to attract attention to the birds from every large chicken raising community in the United States and Canada and from England.

The birds will be seen under natural conditions in runs back of wire netting. The space devoted to the show will be as large as the Madison Square Garden. The exhibition will last for three months beginning June 1. The prizes include cups and medals.

Poslam Stock For Sale.

The undersigned, founder of the Poslam business and original owner of its trade-mark and formula, offers for sale at par 1,250 shares of Poslam stock, 5,000 shares, par value one hundred, Reason for selling: Another healing product, called Prodim, which sells at \$1.00 per share, and which he wishes to devote his time and resources to.

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IN THE LATEST SPRING AND SUMMER FASHIONS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED AND INCLUDE NEW SHADES IN SOFT DRESS TAFFETAS, FOULARDS IN DRESSEN EFFECTS, SILK SUITINGS, CREPE CHAMUSE, CHANGEABLE SATIN MOUSSELINE, NOVELTY CHIFFONS IN POMPADOOR DESIGNS AND TAFFETA FACONNE.

A NUMBER OF ESPECIALLY DESIRABLE QUALITIES IN DRESS SILKS ARE BEING OFFERED AT LESS THAN USUAL PRICES.

WOMEN'S TRIMMED HATS AT \$23.00

FASHIONABLE DESIGNS IN OSTRICH FEATHER TRIMMED HATS WILL BE ON SALE MONDAY IN THE DEPARTMENT ON THE THIRD FLOOR SIMILAR HATS USUALLY SELLING FOR \$35.00

A SALE OF SUMMER DRESS FABRICS

IMPORTED GINGHAMS, STRIPES, CHECKS AND PLAIDS PER YARD, 19c.

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BREAKFAST AND BOUDOIR JACKETS OF CHIFFON, CREPE DE CHINE, CHINA SILK, DOTTED SWISS AND FANCY MUSLINS; ALSO COMBINATION GARMENTS, NIGHT ROBES, CHEMISES AND PRINCESS SLIPS OF CHIFFON, CHINA SILK, ETC., AND PETTICOATS IN A VARIETY OF DESIGNS.

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AN UNUSUALLY SELECT ASSORTMENT IS DISPLAYED IN THE DEPARTMENT ON THE SECOND FLOOR OF FRENCH TEA GOWNS AND NEGLIGES IN THE NEWEST MATERIALS, INCLUDING BROCADED CREPE, CHIFFON TAFFETA, CREPE DE CHINE, LACE, CHIFFON, HAND-EMBROIDERED LINGERIE FABRICS AND VOILE NINON, IN BOTH ELABORATE AND SIMPLE DESIGNS.

ALSO HOUSE GOWNS OF ALBATROSS, INDIA SILK, FRENCH FLANNEL AND WASHABLE MATERIALS AT VERY MODERATE PRICES.

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